

DX LISTENING DIGEST 2-152, October 1, 2002
edited by Glenn Hauser, wghauser@hotmail.com

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NOTE: If you are a regular reader of DXLD, and a source of DX news but have not been sending it directly to us, please consider yourself obligated to do so. Thanks, Glenn

WORLD OF RADIO 1149:

BROADCASTS ON RFPI: Wed 0100, 0700 on 7445, 15038.7; webcast Wed 1300

BROADCASTS ON WWCR: Wed 0930 9475

ONDEMAND <http://www.wrn.org/ondemand/worldofradio.html>

(DOWNLOAD) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1149.rm>

(STREAM) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1149.ram>

(SUMMARY) <http://www.worldofradio.com/wor1149.html>

WORLD OF RADIO 1150:

FIRST AIRING ON WBCQ: Wed 2200 on 17495, 7415; Mon 0415 on 7415

FIRST AIRINGS ON WWCR: Thu 2030 on 15825, Sat 0600, Sun 0230 on 5070

FIRST AIRINGS ON RFPI: Sat 0130, 0730, Sun 0000, 0600 on 7445, 15039

** AFGHANISTAN [non?]. Media Advisory

SIGNING OF THE U.S.-AFGHANISTAN RADIO AGREEMENT

Washington, D.C., October 01, 2002ó

Who: Kenneth Y. Tomlinson, Chairman, the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) and His Excellency Dr. Makhdoom Raheen, Minister of Information and Culture, Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan

What: The Signing of the U.S.-Afghanistan Radio Agreement

Where: Cohen Building Auditorium, 330 Independence Ave., S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20237

When: Thursday, October 3, 2002 -- 11 a.m.

The agreement calls for the BBG, which supervises all U.S. government-supported international broadcasting, to install two high-power,

medium-wave (AM) transmitters that will have nationwide reach across Afghanistan. In addition, the BBG will provide transmitters and equipment for up to five FM operations in Afghanistan.

The BBG, a federal agency directed by a nine-member, presidentially appointed board, supervises the Voice of America (VOA); Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL); Radio Free Asia (RFA); Radio/TV Marti, and WORLDNET Television. Other BBG members include Kenneth Tomlinson; Marc Nathanson; Edward E. Kaufman; Cheryl Halpern; Robert M. Ledbetter, Jr., and Secretary of State Colin Powell, who serves as an ex officio member. For more information, contact: Joan Mower (202.260.0167 or 202.401.3736), jmower@ibb.gov, or www.bbg.gov (BBG Press release Oct 1 via DXLD)

Note that it says 'nationwide reach across Afghanistan' but does not say FROM Afghanistan. So is previous report that Tajikistan will be site correct? If so, why isn't Tajikistan involved in this event??? Disinformation in action? Or the 801 be temporary? (gh, DXLD)

** AUSTRALIA. VMW 12 MHz Frequency. It would appear that the problem of finding a 12 MHz frequency for voice transmission over VMW has been resolved. The station is now announcing and transmitting on 12353 kHz. (Oct Australian DX News via DXLD)

** AUSTRIA. The station I heard in February was R Afri>k<a Int'l from Moosbrunn, Austria on 17895. My first report was sent to the Heigerlein Str. address, but I received no reply. So I tried a follow-up via the NY address that I saw somewhere, thinking it was the same station. Apparently it is not the same station, in which case NY verified a report for the "other" Radio Afrika, thinking it was their own, without checking reception details! I can think of no other explanation. Tnx to WB for noticing this! Question is, shall I count this QSL or not? All the data on the card is correct, hi! (John Wilkins, CO, BC-DX Sep 20 via DXLD)

** BRAZIL. Nuestro amigo brasileño Samuel C. ssio nos informa lo siguiente:

HOR;RIO DE VERVO NO BRASIL 2002 / 2003

O hor·rio de ver,,o comeÁa no dia 3 de novembro e termina em 15 de fevereiro de 2003. Neste período, todos os relógios têm de ser adiantados em uma hora. Tradicionalmente, o hor·rio de ver,,o comeÁa em outubro, mas, neste ano, atendendo a um pedido do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral (TSE), o governo decidiu deix·-lo para depois do eventual segundo turno das eleiÁes. O hor·rio de ver,,o de 2002/2003 valer· para todos os Estados das regies Sul, Sudeste e Centro-Oeste e para a Bahia devido ã sua localizaÁ,,o (Folha de S. Paulo, em Brasília, via

Arnaldo Slaen, Conexi n Digital via DXLD)

[Due to elections --- what does that have to do with it? --- DST starts in parts of Brasil later this year than usual: Nov 3, until Feb 15]

** BULGARIA. Radio Bulgaria noted at 1600 on 30000, SINPO 35343. ID and news in East European language. Presumably a feeder? (John Ralph, Lambourn, UK, Oct World DX Club Contact) This is the 4th harmonic of 7500 (Mike Barraclough, ibid. via DXLD)

** CHINA [non].

"EXPERT" SAYS TAIPEI SOURCE OF FALUN GONG TV SIGNALS - XINHUA AGENCY | Text of report in English by official Chinese news agency Xinhua (New China News Agency)

Beijing, 29 September: A senior radio expert said here on Sunday [29 September] that television signals illegally transmitted by Falun Gong cult followers originated in the Taipei area, (in the province of Taiwan), noting that the source of satellite TV hijacking was precise and irrefutable.

The source was traced through the use of internationally-accredited technologies and advanced monitoring equipment, said the official in charge of the national radio monitoring centre, during an interview with Xinhua reporters.

From 8 September through the early morning of 22 September, signals sent by Falun Gong cult members, repeatedly jammed transmissions of the Sino Satellite (SINOSAT) system.

The centre's experts traced the source of interference of the broadcasts while they were in progress, and it has been confirmed that their point of origin is in the area of Taipei city in Taiwan province, at the geographical location of 121 degrees, 30 minutes, 33 seconds east longitude, and 24 degrees, 51 minutes, 04 seconds north latitude, according to the official.

The centre traced the interference source of the broadcasts while they were in progress numerous times to determine the site of the broadcasts, and the relevant departments in Taiwan were informed on the outcome of the above tests via non-governmental channels, and the outcome of tests was subsequently publicized on 26 September.

Acknowledging that the relevant Taiwan departments have been reportedly begun searching for the source of interference for signals, the spokesman said, stressing that the illegal TV hijacking is a serious violation of the basic norms in civil communications. It is

expected that the relevant Taiwan departments will take effective measures to locate the source of the illegal signals as soon as possible and will have them put an end to, the official said. Source: Xinhua news agency, Beijing, in English 1412 gmt 29 Sep 02 (via BBCM via DXLD)

TAIWAN SAYS BEIJING MISTAKEN OVER FALUN GONG TV HACKING |

Text of report in English by Taiwanese Central News Agency web site

Taipei, 27 September: The Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) urged Beijing Friday [27 September] to resume long-stalled dialogue to avoid what it called "miscalculations" over its accusation of satellite interference by Falun Gong followers based in Taiwan.

The cabinet-level council that charts Taiwan's policy towards mainland China made the call in response to an accusation levelled by Beijing Tuesday that Taiwanese followers of Falun Gong - banned by the communist regime since 1999 - hijacked mainland Chinese television broadcasts via its state-run Sinosat satellite twice this month. Beijing demanded that Taiwan stop the interference, warning that bilateral ties could suffer.

The MAC said in a press statement that even though Taiwan is not a member of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), it has consistently abided by the union's regulations and has spared no efforts to prevent illegal interference of telecommunication signals. It went on to say that Taiwan's telecommunication authorities have investigated the mainland claims, but so far, no suspicious source of hacking has been discovered.

As to Beijing's assertion that it had informed Taipei through private organizations about Falun Gong followers hacking into its state satellite television signals from Taiwan three months ago, the statement said the council has never received any such information. It urged Beijing to seek Taiwan's assistance through Taipei's quasi-official Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and its mainland Chinese counterpart - the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS).

"Abandoning this short cut is not a wise move," the council said in the statement. Noting that the SEF's fax machines are always switched on, it added that the mainland authorities should provide Taiwan with accurate information about the accusations through this existing channel to avoid miscalculation and misunderstanding.

Mainland China suspended cross-strait dialogue in July 1999 after then-ROC President Lee Teng-hui defined Taiwan-mainland China ties as "a special state-to-state relationship". ARATS has also since declined

any engagement with its Taiwan counterpart, choosing instead to contact private Taiwan organizations, particularly those founded by opposition political groups.

The MAC reminded Beijing that eradication of illegal use or interference of telecommunication signals requires concerted efforts from both sides and it expressed regret that signals of seven private Taiwan radio stations have been disrupted or hijacked by mainland China's state-run radio stations since last year.

"The mainland authorities have so far not taken effective steps to stop such interference," council officials said. "It is our hope that mainland China abides by international regulations and effectively prevents radio stations on its territory from disrupting transmissions by Taiwan's radio stations." According to the latest information provided by mainland authorities, the signals that hijacked mainland Chinese television broadcasts via Sinosat were transmitted from the mountainous Wulai region, located 25 km from downtown Taipei.

The region boasts a private tourist farm and a forest amusement park. The Directorate-General of Telecommunications (DGT) said it has sent three teams of technicians to survey the area over the past two days. "But so far, no source of hacking has been pinpointed," a DGT official said. Source: Central News Agency web site, Taipei, in English 1132 gmt 27 Sep 02 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** COLOMBIA. Luego de superar algunos inconvenientes de tipo t cnico con el ajuste del cristal al transmisor y de fluido el ctrico, hoy hacia las 1120 UT, inici  transmisiones La Voz de tu Conciencia a trav s de los 6.010 aunque m s exactamente por los 6.010.5 kHz; como es l gico faltan algunas cosas m s por ajustar. Pero se conf a en superarlos pronto y cumplir con el requerimiento del Ministerio de Comunicaciones.

Una vez m s le recuerdo y les pido el intentar escuchar esta emisora y lo m s importante, el env o de reportes de recepci n que son necesarios para evaluar la se al y soportar una solicitud de cambio de frecuencia; estos pueden ser enviados por correo normal a:

Libreria Colombia para Cristo, Calle 44 No. 13-69, Bogot  D.C. o por via electronica: rms05001@n... [truncated]

En principio el objetivo seria transmitir las 24 horas, pero puede estar fuera del aire por problemas de fluido el ctrico o los ajustes que deban hacerse; en realidad ser a de estar chequeando la frecuencia en varios horarios. Como sabemos que se puede presentar interferencias con emisora latinoamericanas es esto precisamente lo que debemos soportar para solicitar el posible cambio de frecuencia. Un abrazo

(Rafael Rodríguez, Colombia, Sept 24, Conexión Digital via DXLD)

También hay una transmisión, al parecer en holandés de Radio Nederland en esta misma frecuencia 6010 que por las 0200 UT (si no me equivoco) transmite para este continente; en esa hora Radio Mil está completamente interferida. saludos (Héctor García Bojorge, Mexico, ibid.)

Hola Hector; Gracias por tu comentario, ya habíamos notado esto y es una emisión en Holandes para Norte y Centroamérica a través de Sackville en Canadá la cual es muy fuerte y nos preocupa mucho ya que a la audiencia que se desea llegar con el mensaje de la emisora, sólo disponen de un horario de escucha reducido para hacerlo que es aprox. 2300-0300. Sólo durante las próximas noches se podrá observar que tan fuerte se presenta esta interferencia por estas tierras. Un abrazo, (Rafael Rodríguez, ibid.)

Y luego de las 1000 UT se mete en la QRG Voice of National Salvation (clandestina, de Corea del Norte a Corea del Sur), por los 6010,7 aproximadamente. Saludos (Arnaldo Slaen, Argentina, Sept 25, Conexión Digital via DXLD) See also URUGUAY

Para mantenerlos al tanto, les cuento que la emisora se encuentra apagada en 6010 debido a la quema de una bobina del transmisor; esto ya se está solucionando y además están esperando el cristal de fábrica; ya que el que tienen para los 6010 es de fabricación "artesanal" que no tiene mucha confiabilidad. Se sigue evaluando las posibilidades de otras frecuencias. Muy pronto empezarán a enviar las confirmaciones a los reportes de los 6060; como cosa curiosa van a ser despachadas desde USA ya que el correo sale más económico (Rafael Rodríguez, Colombia, Sept 30, Conexión Digital via DXLD)

** CONGO DR. Right now (0930 gmt 1 Oct) I'm hearing Radio Okapi on 11690. It is using carrier-plus-USB. The signal is weak and is co-channel with a Somali radiotelephone circuit (also using USB). But I've just heard a clear ID. No sign of anything yet on other frequencies cited recently (6030, 6300, 9550). Regards, (Chris in Nairobi Greenway, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA. See INTERNATIONAL WATERS

** CYPRUS. 981, VoA Radio Sawa were heard with different programs [?satellite feed delay, see BELOW] in Arabic, 1500-1530 on 981 Cape Greco-CYP, 1260 Rhodes-GRC and 1548 Kuwait. 1260 was in \\ with few SW outlets (Rumen Pankov, Bulgaria, BC-DX Sep 13 via DXLD)

Not just satellite delays: they are supposed to be different for each target audience (gh, DXLD)

Despite news of the station moving to 990 kHz, it still seems to operate on 981 kHz. Heard just a while ago alternating with Greek ERT on 981 kHz (Mika Mäkeläinen, Finland, Oct 1, dxing.info via DXLD)

Re: R. Sawa on 990 kHz (BC-DX 591). I am happy to send my report to you from Cairo! I hear R. Sawa almost everyday in Cairo. It has not been QSYed and still on air on 981 kHz 17-19 September (Hironao Oguma, Cairo, EGYPT, Sep 22, BC-DX via DXLD)

Radio Sawa's MW from Cape Greco Cyprus still stays on 981 kHz. In spite of its shorter distance to Cairo, the frequency is heard approximately 1 second behind 1260 kHz from Rhodes, Greece. Why? (Hironao Oguma, Egypt, BC-DX Sep 28, via DXLD)

Difference in distance between Cyprus and Rhodes is inconsequential compared to the speed of light (gh, DXLD)

We visited the IBB VoA Control Center Munich last weekend. I guess most of the SW outlets and MW Rhodes/Kuwait relay transmissions via feed by two to four satellite hops, from Washington/Atlantic, Munich controlcenter/Atlantic-Africa satellite, Middle East/Indian Ocean satellite, up to Thailand, Sri Lanka and Tinian/Saipan relays via Pacific satellites. But in case of failure or maintenance, the feed goes reverse from Washington to San Francisco, Pacific, Hawaii, Saipan/Tinian, Indian Ocean, Atlantic to Munich control center. That's all done fully automatically by very expensive Canadian made satellite equipment and also via expensive satellite channel circuits. [But such US propaganda costs are cheaper to reach the target people, than fight on bloody war clashes in AFG or IRQ, ed. WB]

In case of Cyprus, I guess the Capo Greco site is fed via Merlin-London control room center in Bush House to Nicosia Cyprus facilities, or via Radio MonteCarlo feeder line [the other Cyprus mediumwave 1233 relay of RMC], via Paris France control center, so there are more two hops via Atlantic/Africa satellite or so (Wolfgang Bueschel, Sep 29, BC-DX via DXLD)

The IBB schedule website
http://sds.his.com:4000/fmds_z/schedules/freqsked.txt announces the start of the new R. Sawa frequency 990 kHz for 25 October (Bernd Trutenau, Lithuania, Sept 30, MW-DX via DXLD)

See, it is taking them quite a while to move just 9 kHz, like chopping off part of the mast :) (gh, DXLD)

** CZECH REPUBLIC/USA. RFE/RL CZECH BROADCASTS END | Text of report in English by press release by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on 30

September

Washington, DC, 30 September 2002: In a statement released today, RFE/RL President Thomas Dine said that, after 51 years of "devotion in promoting freedom and democracy," the end of broadcasting by the organization's Czech Service, Radio Svobodna Evropa (RSE), is a "sad event". But he added that "looking back, RFE/RL takes great pride and pleasure in the enormous effort of this service in disseminating truthful news and information to the Czech and Slovak peoples" and to the "great impact" produced by the broadcasts "over the course of half a century."

Radio Free Europe's "voice of a free Czechoslovakia" first went on the air on 1 May 1951, as the newly-created US surrogate broadcaster's first official transmission. Since that time, the Czech Service (prior to 1993, the Czechoslovak Service) has kept the Czech people informed about all of the major news stories affecting them - the "Prague Spring" liberalization movement of 1968 and subsequent Soviet-led invasion, the rise of Charter 77, the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the Velvet Revolution that brought the communist era to a close in Czechoslovakia and the peaceful break-up of Czechoslovakia in 1993. In 1981, a bomb blast at RFE/RL's Cold War-era headquarters in Munich, targeting the Czechoslovak Service, severely wounded three broadcasters.

In 1995, after RFE/RL moved from Munich to the former Czechoslovak federal parliament building in the centre of Prague, the Czech Service became a joint venture with Czech Public Radio.

Dine said the end of the Czech broadcasts came due to budgetary constraints and that while there is still a need for the broadcasts in the Czech Republic, "we are now needed more urgently elsewhere."

Dine's statement ends with a quote from a reader of the Czech daily Mlada fronta Dnes, who wrote on 27 September that "RSE has every right to [pass into history] with its head high, because it fulfilled its mission flawlessly." Source: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Prague, in English 30 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** ECUADOR. 3289.9, R Centro, 1041, Oct 1, Lots of ads. Fast paced format. ID given a couple of times by the Spanish speaking announcer at 1045. Strong signal (David Hodgson, TN, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ECUADOR. Musical format discussion: see MEXICO

** EL SALVADOR. 17833.2, R. Imperial (presumed), 0015-0100 Sept 24, W announcer around 0020, then dropped down. 0040 end of LA Pop song and canned (pres.) ads by M over music. Back to music at 0041. Live W

announcer again at 0052 which was almost readable. 0057 W anncr again joined by a M anncr with definite mention of "oyentes". Fairly strong signal but severely undermodulated, most times not audible at all. Adjacent QRM too. Can hear this everyday starting around 1900 and also in the mornings around 1200 (Dave Valko, PA, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

So Europeans have a chance if it is on that early. When is WB checking it? (gh, DXLD)

17833.16, R Imperial, nothing heard here in Europe, not even a carrier (Wolfgang Bueschel, Germany, Sep 26-29, BCDX via DXLD)

** ERITREA [non]. ETHIOPIA [to ERITREA] Voice of Peace & Democracy of Eritrea. If you take a look in the DSWCI Domestic Broadcasting Survey edited in April this year, you will see that the Voice of the Tigray Revolution is broadcast from Mek'ele, Tigray, Ethiopia on 6350 daily from 0400 (and at other times) in Tigrinya. But at *0312-0350* the same transmitter is used by the clandestine Voice of Peace & Democracy of Eritrea, also in Tigrinya. Today, Sep 4, I heard this clandestine from tune in 0328-0350* and the IS of the Voice of the Tigray Revolution signing on 0355. The latter was also heard with a faint signal on \\ 5500 (Anker Petersen, Denmark, DXplorer via BC-DX via DXLD)

** EUROPE. 9384.96, EUROPIRATE, Laser Hot Hits, 2216 Sept 30. "Apeman" by the Kinks, deep fades and noisy, M dj and mx (Pink Floyd, etc.), then 2231 M announces station website "all you have to do is to type in our website address, which is www.radiolink.net/hothits, that's www.radiolink forward slash, that's, uh, www.radiolink.net/hothits..." Altho carrier stayed in for hours afterwards, this was about the peak of readable copy (Al Quaglieri, NY, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** FINLAND. The editorial staff of YLE's doomed German service announces a special commemorative broadcast with studio guests and listener call-in: On Oct 10 1700-1900 on 9630, from 1800 also on 6120, 11755 and Hotbird. They also state that all protest against the closure of the service is futile. The one hour programs on weekends were aired for the last time this Sunday; only the Mon-Sat 0530-0545 on 9650 and Mon-Fri 0930-0945 on 15530 slots will remain till the bitter end (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Oct 1, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** FRANCE? 25775 unID: Like lotsa people I'm keeping an ear out for this. Got it tonight at 1030 UT, with a MA in English (North American accent to my ears) on technology, then gives a phone number "Area code 339 912..." hash static(!!!)" we are giving away 3 tickets for two to see.." static buzzz... thought there were a few phone numbers mentioned including 9514 and 41x9. Sometimes just Ma (sounds young). Sometimes MA and FA. Played some classical music for 30 secs then

later Rolling Stones' "Brown Sugar"; faded out about 1045. If the guy uses English and French could it be Canadian low power? Why using Mass phone numbers? Right now at 1130 I can hear some "tuning up" tones. carriers coming and going. HmMMMM (Jem Cullen, Australia, Oct 1, ARDXC via DXLD)

** GERMANY. Germany is to have its first radio station for truck drivers. Starlet Media has won time on a mediumwave licence in Saxony-Anhalt and a DAB licence in Berlin and Brandenburg. It also hopes to win a national long wave frequency. The station will be named Countrystar (Michael Lawton, Radio World via Jack Fitzsimmons, UK, Oct World DX Club Contact via Mike Barraclough, DXLD)

** GERMANY. At Berlin I found today 810, 891 and 1485 empty, no more DRM tests. Berlin-Britz 855 was again running DRM, the splatter problem was meanwhile reduced but still not completely eliminated. I also found that the BBC-Worldservice FM outlet 90.2 has a quite poor audio quality; it's in stereo but the audio frequency range hardly exceeds 7 kHz. I will check the joint BBC/RFI outlet at Dresden with headphones tomorrow if time will permit.

By the way, I went out to Frohnau to the old microwave link tower (358 metres tall, 6 GHz link to the FRG with direct sight, not having to rely on tropo scatter like the older 2 GHz links, hence using just 10 instead of 1000 watts transmitter power), but unfortunately time did not permit to search for a place with sight on the station grounds to look for the provisional 1485 antenna and so on. Anyway the weather made it a really nice stroll. Regards, (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Oct 1, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** GERMANY. 6085 KHZ ABSCHALTUNG DER KURZWELLE
Der Bayerische Rundfunk stellt zum 1. Januar 2003 die analoge Programmverbreitung ueber Kurzwelle ein.

Damit verliert der BR nach der weitreichenden Mittelwelle 1602 kHz in 1979 nunmehr eine weitere exzellente Verbreitungsmoeglichkeit fuer vielseitigen Empfang, ob zuhause, im Hotel, am Strand, in den Bergen, auf den Booten und Schiffen, im Auto, europaweit. ed.

Mit grossem Bedauern lese ich von der geplanten Abschaltung der Kurzwelle. Das ist ausserordentlich schade, denn die Mischung, die auf 6085 verbreitet wird, sucht ihresgleichen. (...) das, was der BR macht, ist eine korrekte, wortlastige Nutzung dieses Frequenzbereichs. Nach der Abschaltung wird der BR ausserhalb seines Sendegebiets mobil nicht mehr zu empfangen sein. Ich koennte eine Entscheidung verstehen, die darauf hinaus liefe, die 6085 moeglichst bald dem DRM-Standard zuzufuehren. Da dies sicher nur eine Frage kurzer Zeit waere, scheint es mir klug, bei der KW-Versorgung keine Luecke entstehen zu lassen

und die Hoerer nicht von diesem Frequenzbereich zu entwoehnen.

Leiten Sie bitte Ihrem technischen Direktor diese Mail zu, bevor er endgueltig entscheidet (Peter Beck, Germany, A-DX Sep 25 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Nachdem der BR sich seiner Sache anscheinend (?) doch noch nicht so sicher ist:

Schreibt an die Techn. Information des BR TechInfo@b... [truncated by yahoogroups] und erwaehnt das ihr soeben von der "angeblichen" Abschaltung der Kurzwelle 6085 gehoert habt und damit nicht so wirklich einverstanden seid. Und wenn es nur zwei Zeilen sind die sich jeder von uns ausdenkt - das macht Sinn.

Und wenn morgen in Muenchen auch nur 50 Mails ankommen, ist das fuer ein "Geruecht" - offizioeses gibt's ja nicht vom BR - erstmal kein schlechtes Lebenszeichen. Warten wir's nicht ab. 73 (Christoph OE2CRM, A-DX Sep 24 via DXLD)

From: TechInfo@b...

Sehr geehrter Herr ... , vielen Dank fuer Ihre e-mail und Ihr Interesse an unserem Programm.

Leider koennen wir Ihnen im Moment keine naeheren Angaben zum Thema Kurzwelle geben, da die Entscheidung ueber den weiteren Betrieb noch nicht getroffen wurde.

Eine Diskussion ueber die Wirtschaftlichkeit von Sendeanlagen hat es uebrigens immer schon gegeben - Mittel- und Kurzwellensender sind hier oft (wegen der hohen Wartungs- und Betriebskosten) im Gespraech.

Erst wenn die schriftliche Stellungnahme des Technischen Direktors erfolgt ist, koennen wir entsprechende Informationen herausgeben. Wir bitten Sie deshalb, sich solange mit diesem Zwischenbescheid zufrieden zu geben.

Mit freundlichen Gruessen, Manfred Schmitz, Bayerischer Rundfunk, Neue Technologien, Techn. Information, 80300 Muenchen
Fax: 089/5900-3199 Faxpolling: (Frequenzen) 089/5900-4032
e-Mail: techinfo@b...
Internet: <http://www.br-online.de/br-intern/technik> (A-DX Sep 24 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Der Technische Direktor Herbert Tillmann ist insbesondere zustaeendig und verantwortlich fuer die technischen Angelegenheiten des Bayerischen Rundfunks.

Dies beinhaltet u.a.

| die Umstellung von den ueberholten analogen Techniken auf universell einsetzbare Digitaltechnik; | die terrestrischen Sendernetze und die Programmverbreitung ueber Satellit und Kabel sowie fuer das Internet als neuen Vertriebsweg; | die mittelfristige Abloesung der bestehenden analogen Uebertragungsverfahren. Diese werden nach intensiven Erprobungsphasen in die neuen Rundfunksysteme DIGITAL RADIO (DAB) und Digital Video Bcing (DVB) konsequent auf- und ausgebaut; | die Entwicklungen beim digitalen Fernsehen und Radio voranzutreiben;

Herbert Tillmann war Mitinitiator des Projektes BR-ONLINE. Der Aufbau von BR-ONLINE als Komplementaermedium zu Hoerfunk und Fernsehen wurde von ihm aus strategischen Erwaegungen heraus gezielt gefoerdert. Neben der Foerderung der Digitalisierung innerhalb des Bayerischen Rundfunks setzte sich Tillmann auf nationaler und internationaler Ebene bei der Frage der technischen Plattform fuer Digitales Fernsehen im Bereich Produktion in Sendung und Ausstrahlung mit Nachdruck dafuer ein, dass die technologischen Rahmenbedingungen, innerhalb derer sich oeffentlich-rechtlicher Rundfunk auf Basis der vom Bundesverfassungsgericht ausgesprochenen Bestands- und Entwicklungsgarantie im Zeitalter des digitalen Fernsehens weiterentwickeln koennen, den Anforderungen nach Offenheit, Transparenz, Diskriminierungsfreiheit und Standards genuegen.

Als Vertreter der ARD steht Tillmann auch im Rahmen der Initiative Digitaler Rundfunk IDR der Bundesregierung, die fuer die Digitalisierung der Rundfunkdienste in Deutschland einen Zeitplan bis zum Jahre 2010 vorgibt, fuer ein geordnetes und zwischen allen Beteiligten abgestimmtes Vorgehen.

Wirtschaftlich, bedarfsgerecht, marktorientiert, technologisch offen und wettbewerbsfoerdernd sind die Punkte, die Tillmann hinsichtlich eines Umstiegsszenarios in den Vordergrund stellt. Tillmann ist Mitglied in verschiedenen ARD-Kommissionen sowie in nationalen und internationalen Arbeitsgruppen (via A-DX Sep 25 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Danke fuer die ausfuehrliche Info. 6085: Das waere wirklich schade, wenn die abschalten wuerden. Hab' ich im europaeischen Ausland oft gehoert. Erst die 1602 futsch, jetzt noch die KW (...) Die 6085 klingt hier mit SYNCH und 9.5 kHz-Filter auf dem 7030 ganz hervorragend. (Martin Elbe, Germany, A-DX Sep 22 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Sehr schade, war es doch im Urlaub eine Alternative zu DLR, DLF und DW. Und auch so zwischendurch sehr angenehm zu hoeren, ob ADR und DVB (via SAT) eine entsprechende Alternative ist moechte ich bezweifeln. Wobei ADR im SAT-Bereich auch eher zu den Auslaufmodellen gehoert und sich kaum jemand mehr einen ADR-Empfaenger kaufen wird. Ausserdem ist dadurch jetzt, bzw. ab Januar kein mobiler Empfang mehr moeglich. Sehr

schade! (Marcel Goerke, Germany, A-DX Sep 24 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Waere ja eigentlich bedauerlich, wenn der staerkste deutsche Regionalsender (im Gegensatz zu DW und DLF/DLR) die KW verlassen wuerde, nachdem er schon vor vielen Jahren seine MW 1602 kHz mit aehnlicher Reichweite aufgeben musste. Auch ich habe die KW-Frequenz oft auf meinen Reisen gehoert - war immer eine angenehme Alternative zur DW (Michael Bethge, Germany, WWDXC, Sep 22 via BC-DX via DXLD)

Ja, und die Wiederaufnahme der Sendungen ist natuerlich "grundsaeztlich moeglich". Mich erinnert das an R Bremen: Gerade mal drei Leute haben sich beschwert, und damit hatte es sich mit 6190 erledigt. Wir duerfen uns also auch schon auf schoene Trailer auf 6085 freuen; da das ohnehin eine eigenstaendige Programmzustellung ist macht es ja auch keine Probleme, welche einzustreuen (Kai Ludwig, Germany, BC-DX Sep 23 via DXLD)

**** INDONESIA. ANALYSIS: INDONESIA MEDIA BILL SPARKS CENSORSHIP FEARS |**
Text of editorial analysis by BBC Monitoring's Foreign Media Unit on 30 September

The Indonesian parliament is considering a controversial bill to regulate the broadcasting industry. The bill's primary aim is to create an independent broadcasting commission for the first time in the country's history.

But broadcasters say the bill has been hijacked by conservative members of the political elite who want to suppress what has become a flourishing independent media four years after the downfall of former dictator President Suharto.

In recent years the number of television and radio stations around the country has mushroomed - the result of the freedoms ushered in by this new more democratic era.

But now for the first time since the end of decades of authoritarian rule in 1998, the broadcast media is under serious threat.

Power to pull the plug

The broadcast bill contains several controversial clauses. According to Richard Galpin, the BBC Jakarta correspondent, "one which has sparked particular anger within the media would give a team of civil servants the right to investigate any breaches of the law and grant them the power to immediately shut down television and radio stations, either temporarily or permanently".

Insiders say members of President Megawati Sukarnoputri's party, along

with the former ruling Golkar party as well as representatives of the military and intelligence agencies, have succeeded in getting this clause into the bill.

Atmakusumah, chairman of the national Press Council, says it is as Draconian as anything he can remember since the Japanese occupation of Indonesia during the last world war.

"It reminds me of the time in the Second World War, when the Japanese military government would place the so-called military advisers in print media offices and maybe broadcast media offices also, which actually they were censorship officials.

"But the Japanese government would call them military advisers," he said.

Woolly wording

All this is particularly worrying for the broadcasters, as the wording of many of the clauses is vague. For example, it is deemed an offence if programmes "ridicule, look down upon, molest and or neglect religious values, the prestige of the Indonesian people and violate international relationships".

For breaking these rules, there could be prison sentences of five years and massive fines. August Parenkuan, head of the television station TV7, is concerned about yet another part of the bill.

This gives the government a continuing role in the issuing and extension of licences which will need to be renewed regularly. "The licence is given for 10 years. That makes us so unsure because after 10 years we get the new licence. What we want to have is to put a new law that the extension should go automatically, unless there is an order by the court - the court, not the government or the broadcasting commission."

Foreign media

Also under threat are foreign broadcasters such as ABC, BBC and Voice of America, which, if the bill becomes law, will no longer be able to relay live news programmes to Indonesian stations. Even Indonesia's foreign minister has questioned the proposed ban on foreign broadcasts.

In an interview with the Voice of America in mid-September, Hasan Wirajuda criticized plans to curb the relay of foreign broadcasting by local radio and TV as part of the new broadcasting bill. "Any form of censorship, limitation or curbing of foreign broadcasting in this new

world of the information superhighway will only be counterproductive," Wirajuda told VOA. "If the bill is passed by the parliament," he continued, "this kind of censorship, limitation or any kind of curbing of the free flow of information will not be effective or enforceable. This new law will merely be a piece of paper. Why should we produce a law that is not effective and enforceable?"

Wirajuda added: "The legislative move by the parliament to curb foreign broadcasting is against the spirit of reform in Indonesia that the government has encouraged. Technically, how can we limit that kind of broadcasting? It is hard to understand. This borderless world has changed, and the free flow of information has bombarded the Indonesian public for so many years. Compared to the neighbouring countries, Indonesia is left behind in this new world of information. Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Thailand have moved far beyond this kind of censorship."

Atmakusumah of the Press Council has no doubt what the government and MPs are trying to achieve: "Many of them just don't believe in the full freedom of the press. I thought some of them have rational reasons, for example to protect the society or the audience from the misuse of radio stations. But some of the drafters I think just don't believe in the full freedom of press and expression." The question is whether the bill will be revised before it is voted into law by parliament, which is due to take place in November, BBC correspondent Richard Galpin concluded. Source: BBC Monitoring research 30 Sep 02 (via DXLD)

** INTERNATIONAL WATERS [and non]. Second Hurricane Hits Cuba

NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 1, 2002 -- Fast on the heels of Hurricane Isidore, Hurricane Lili is striking Western Cuba. The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) and W4EHW at the National Hurricane Center in Miami again are active to gather ground-level reports from the affected area via Amateur Radio. W4EHW has been monitoring both the HWN and Cuban emergency nets.

"Many real-time reports were received last night and this morning on 40 meters directly from the radar station on Punta del Este, Isle of Youth," said Julio Ripoll, WD4JR, the assistant Amateur Radio coordinator at W4EHW. "They reported a maximum wind gust of 173 kph (107 MPH) at 1100 UT this morning. Ripoll said no injuries or deaths have been reported, and no damage assessment has been done because of the continued high winds.

The Category 1 storm, sporting sustained winds of nearly 90 MPH, made landfall this morning on the southern coast of the Isle of Youth and was poised to make landfall on the western tip of the Cuban province

of Pinar del Rio later this afternoon. The National Weather Service says Lili --- which at one point last week had begun to dissipate-- continues to intensify and could become a Category 2 hurricane.

Projections suggest that Lili now could threaten the US Gulf Coast. As of 1500 UT, the storm was some 115 miles southwest of Havana, moving toward the west-northwest at nearly 13 MPH.

The Hurricane Watch Net re-activated on 14.325 MHz today at 1100 UT after spending 14 hours on the air yesterday hampered by poor band conditions caused by a solar flare and resulting geomagnetic storm. Even so, the HWN's Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, described the activation as successful.

"With reports coming in from stations on Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac, vital weather data was collected," said Graves, who's filling in this week for HWN Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP. "Cayman Brac had winds from 45 to 50 MPH, and Little Cayman had winds topping out at 90 MPH. Graves said damage in Little Cayman included downed trees, power lines and utility poles as well as minor roof damage and beach erosion. "Once Lili makes it into the Gulf of Mexico, all eyes will be on the northwest Gulf Coast," Graves said. Graves said the net's primary focus Tuesday would be the Isle of Youth and the southwestern coast of Cuba. Both the HWN and W4EHW have been recruiting bilingual (English-Spanish) operators to assist in storm activations such as the current one that affect primarily Spanish-speaking areas. W4EHW continues to exchange meteorological data and Spanish advisories with Cuban amateurs, Ripoll said.

Ripoll said many of the reports received via ham radio have proven to be valuable to forecasters at the National Hurricane Center. Additionally, he said, media interest has been very high. W4EHW was interviewed last night on the Spanish network Telemundo. Miami's NBC affiliate aired a story that included an interview with NHC Director Max Mayfield. "Associated Press and CNN also have mentioned ham radio reports," he said.

Official advisories can be found at the National Hurricane Web site <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/> (ARRL Oct 1 via Mike Terry, DXLD)

** IRAN [non]. IRAQ V. of Mojahed, 1325-1725 UT on additional 9250. (Rumen Pankov, Bulgaria, Sept 2, BC-DX Sep 30 via DXLD)

** IRAQ. 1557, Iraqi type bubble jamming at 1550-2025 UT, maybe vs. "Two Rivers Radio" from Kuwait, reported to be on v1550-1566 kHz range (Rumen Pankov, Bulgaria, BC-DX Sep 19 via DXLD) No more Two Rivers now with Sawa on 1548?

** ISRAEL. Congratulations for your excellent work which I follow every week. I need a very important piece of info about the new Israeli "Middle east channel" in Arabic. I have watched up all Israeli newspapers but i did not find anything good. Do you know sites or anything might help me know more about this new channel? Thank you very very much. Hope to hear from you soon. MH (Marco Hamam, Italy, Oct 1, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Can anyone help? (gh, DXLD)

** IVORY COAST. COTE D'IVOIRE: GOVERNMENT RESTRICTS FOREIGN BROADCASTS
| Text of press release by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) on 26 September; subheading as published

New York, 25 September: The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) is gravely concerned about the safety of journalists covering the ongoing military crisis in the Ivory Coast....

Foreign broadcasts jammed

Since 22 September, Ivorian authorities have also been jamming the broadcast signals of local FM stations that relay programmes from the BBC, Radio France Internationale (RFI), and the pan-African station Africa No 1. On 23 September, the head of the official National Audiovisual Committee, Jerome Diegou-Bailly, explained that "in a state of war, one must manage the information in order not to spread death and disruption among the population."

Independent journalists in the Ivory Coast, however, have expressed scepticism at the government's motives for banning the three foreign broadcasters. Some point to comments from the government and the ruling-party press that have accused foreign news outlets of working to destabilize the country.

A 22 September editorial in the FPI daily, Notre Voie, called the BBC, RFI, and Agence France-Presse "the other adversaries of the Ivory Coast," a formerly stable nation that has been beset with political unrest since late 1999, when the army seized control in the country's first ever coup.

Meanwhile, France, the United Kingdom and the United States have all sent troops to the country with a mandate to protect Westerners and, if needed, to coordinate their evacuation. Source: Committee to Protect Journalists press release, New York, in English 26 Sep 02 (via BBCM via DXLD) Jamming? Just how? Or term used too loosely

** KASHMIR. PAKISTAN: KASHMIR'S RADIO MIRPUR STARTS TEST TRANSMISSION
| Text of report by Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) news agency

Mirpur, 24 September: Newly established Azad Jammu Kashmir [AJK] Radio

Mirpur started its formal test transmissions on air from 1242 p.m. Tuesday [24 September], it was officially learnt. Station Director Khalid Mahmood Chohan of the AJK Radio Mirpur told APP here Tuesday evening that the test transmissions were successfully brought on air with the name of Allah Almighty by the opening announcer Khalid Waqar, senior producer in the local studios of the broadcasting house.

He said that recitations of the verses from the Holy Koran, Hamad-o-Naat and Arifana kalam (poetry) of the eminent late scholar of the sub continent Mian Muhammad Buksh will be broadcast on MW 936 kHz daily during different hours of the test transmissions. He said that these test transmissions would continue to be brought on air till the formal inauguration of the newly-established Mirpur Radio station in the near future. He said that reports received here Tuesday evening from Muzaffarabad, Rawalpindi/Islamabad, Lahore and other stations speak of the absolutely clear reception of the test transmissions of this station.

Khalid Chohan said while responding to a question that various programmes, besides news and current affairs programmes, in four different languages including Urdu, Kashmiri, Gojri and Pahari will be brought on air regularly from Mirpur Radio soon after the formal inauguration of the project.

The emergence of 15.8m rupee 100-kW Mirpur Radio Station is the major breakthrough in Azad Jammu Kashmir in the development sector in the latest electronic media technology of modern age. The station will give exceptional converge to the cultural, political, educational, entertainment and development activities emerging in this part of the liberated territory through the large scale news and current affairs and other programmes for the interest of the listeners. Source: Associated Press of Pakistan news agency, Islamabad, in English 1621 gm 24 Sep 02

PAKISTAN: KASHMIR'S MIRPUR RADIO STATION TO GO ON AIR ON 30 SEPTEMBER
| Excerpt from report by Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) news agency

Mirpur, 29 September: The newly-established Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur station will start broadcasting its regular transmissions from Monday 30 September. Commissioner Mirpur Division Sardar Muhammad Khurshid Khan told APP here Sunday [29 September] that all is set for the inauguration of the 15.8m rupee AJK Radio Station Mirpur project.

The management of the AK Radio Station Mirpur will hold a befitting ceremony to mark the launch of transmission, said Station Director Khalid Mahmood Chohan while talking to APP. Chohan said that various programmes, besides news and current affairs programmes, in four

different languages including Urdu, Kashmiri, Gojri and Pahari will be brought on air regularly from Mirpur Radio.

The emergence of 100 kW Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur station is a major breakthrough in Azad Jammu Kashmir in the field of latest electronic media technology of modern age. Elaborating the salient features project, Muqarrab Khan Niazi, Controller Projects Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation told APP here Saturday that the newly-constructed Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur has commenced its test transmissions on medium wave on 936 kHz from 24 September. The station will give exceptional coverage to the cultural, political education, entertainment and development activities emerging in this part of the liberated territory through the large scale news and current affairs and other programmes for the interest of the listeners belonging to the areas spreading in the radius of thousands of kilometres especially in Jammu region of the Indian-held Jammu Kashmir state, since it was a keen desire of the population of the area.

The foundation stone of the Mirpur Radio station was laid down by the federal minister for information and media development Nisaar Memon during the former Prime Minister Moeen Qureshi's era, who was also the information minister at that time. The building of the broadcasting house has been constructed on four kanal of land at Sector F-3, in Mirpur city. Whereas the transmitter house has been installed on 400 kanal of land on the area adjacent to the Mirpur industrial Estate, he said. He said that similar 100-kW mediumwave transmitter has also been installed in radio stations at Rawalpindi.

Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur will be the third radio station in AJK next to radio stations already functioning in Muzaffarabad and Tararkheil. Muzaffarabad and Tarakheil Radio stations are giving their transmissions on mediumwave and short wave frequencies respectively. To a question, he said that it will be Canada-made transmitter of 100 kW installed for Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur to ensure the clear and smooth transmissions of its programmes for the listeners spreading in the areas in the radius of up to thousands of kilometres.

Controller projects said that independent electricity supply lines have been managed through an independent feeder from Mirpur Grid Station to run the high power transmitting station of the project. He said that 8.06m rupees have been paid to the AJK Electricity Department for the independent power supply lines from Grid Station to the Transmitting House.

He said that the required staff of all the sections of Azad Kashmir Radio Station Mirpur including engineering programme, finance, administration, news and current affairs have assumed the charge of their respective duties.

Meanwhile, the programme section of Azad Kashmir Radio Mirpur recorded the interviews of various personalities belonging to cross sections of the society in the studios of the AJK radio Station Mirpur to inquire about their views about the importance of the establishment of radio station in Mirpur, Azad Kashmir's only fast expanding industrial district, in this modern age of latest technology... Source: Associated Press of Pakistan news agency, Islamabad, in English 1117 gmt 29 Sep 02 (via BBCM via DXLD)

PAKISTAN: INFORMATION MINISTER INAUGURATES RADIO STATION FOR AZAD KASHMIR AREA | Text of report by Radio Pakistan on 30 September

Azad Kashmir [Pakistani Kashmir] Radio Mirpur was inaugurated by the information minister, Mr Nisar A. Memon, this afternoon. The minister on the occasion said the government has fulfilled an old demand of the people of Kashmir by setting up a radio station. It (?would) project the social and cultural activities of the area. The new radio station will also go a long way in highlighting the Kashmir issue at the international level. The Azad Jammu and Kashmir president, Sardar Muhammad Anwar Khan, and his cabinet ministers were also present on the occasion. Source: Radio Pakistan, Islamabad, in English 1000 gmt 30 Sep 02 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** KAZAKHSTAN [non]. 9925 (ex 9775), R DAT. Heard the station on Sep 25 & 26, 55555 at my place. Undoubtly a Sitkunai, Lithuania transmission. Heard the start and 15 mins, contrary to Anker's observation heard program in Kazakh language only, except a short Russian ID. Audio like ISDN phone line quality standard. But on Sep 27th instead in Russian again (Wolfgang Bueschel, Germany, Sep 27, BC-DX via DXLD)

** KOREA NORTH. Some recent logs of VHF DX received via daytime F2 and evening TEP. Some highlights:

37.340 (am or nbfm) Radio Pyongyang [sic] in English 1000-1030+ UT Sept 22. Same program readily audible on the fundamental, 9.335 (Tony Mann, 32S, 116E, W. Australia, Sept 23, vhfskip yahoogroup via harmonics yahoogroup via DXLD)

** LAOS [non]. UZBEKISTAN, 17540, ULMD via Tashkent, 0100-0200 UT; Merlin operation via MCB to Laos. Most likely change to 12070 in B-02 season: 12070 0100-0200 to zones 44,49,54 TAC 200 kW 131 degr UZB MNO GFC (BC-DX Sept 30 via DXLD)

** LIBERIA. 5100, Liberian Communications Network 2240-2315 Sept 30. Pop music with occasional short announcements by man. 2300 announcements and time by man. News of West Africa with male anchor,

feature stories by man and woman. Frequent mention of Monrovia. Poor signal with very difficult reception due to fading and utility interference (SINPO 22322). Improved after 2300 through 2315 tune out. Program was in English after 2300, probably also prior to 2300, but too low to be certain. First log of them this year (Jim Evans, TN, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** MEXICO [and non]. I'd be careful using "recuerdo" or "recuerdos" as a format name if you report to stations. "Recuerdo" is simply a word meaning "memory" and is not a format description.

Generally, the stations called "Recuerdo" are 60's oldies; "Inolvidable" is more common on 70's oldies stations. The 40's and 50's stuff was first done on "El Fonógrafo del Recuerdo" (now XECMQ-1150) in Mexico City. The latter is a separate format, much like the US Standards format.

One of the interesting things that we spent a ton of money on researching in several US Hispanic markets is that there is no word for "oldies" in Spanish. There is also no word for "standards." So you have to describe the music by type, style or artists. You will also find that, among non-Americanized Mexicans there is no usefulness in describing music by decade; the concept of decades is rarely used in general society, especially in working class situations.

In Mexico, you may find a station that plays US pop claiming to play the best of the 70's, 80's and 90's, but you would never have a ranchera or Spanish ballad station using decade identifiers.

An opportunity to clarify something that may have taken on a format connotation that it does not truly have:

Las Vegas [NV] - 870 is "Recuerdo" and not "Recuerdos." In Fact, all the US Recuerdos, 560 in Chicago (soon), 1270 in Dallas, 750 in El Paso and the trimulcast in LA are all "Recuerdo" without the "s" at the end.

Mexican or Spanish MOL is generally not called "recuerdos" or "recuerdo." The "recuerdo" name is usually applied to oldies that are mostly 60's and early 70's, as the US stations I have cited do; there MOYL stations like 1150 in Mexico City are true nostalgia stations, playing artists from the 40's and 50's. Since the Mexican population is so young, you will only find this kind of nostalgia station in the very biggest cities where there is a large enough group of people over 60 to listen to such programming; in the US you could not get arrested programming Spanish nostalgia as there simply are not enough Spanish dominant Hispanics over age 60 to make a go of it, even in LA (nostalgia and oldies are separate formats in Mexico, just as in the

US. However, the formats don't have generic names like we usually try to come up with in the US).

Speaking of US format terminology, we often hear of "regional Mexican" as a format, especially in trades like M Street, R&R, and the fax pubs. That term was developed by Anglo record people to define a batch of genres that they did not understand. So they gave it a name; the name is unused in Mexico itself, and listeners don't know what it means either.

So if you hear the nostalgia stuff, you either have a specialty show on a smaller market station or a big-market facility; chances that it would be a US station are nil.

The term changes with generations; nearly no one plays 40's or 50's stuff anymore. Just as "oldies" stations in the USA used to play 50's and early 60's stuff, and now, generally, play late 60's and early 70's if they want salable audience ratings.

The Radio Recuerdo that first used the name is, I believe, 860 station in Monterrey, NL. It began playing mostly 50's stuff, like Pedro Infante's softer songs, plus Los Jaibos, and the early trio sound that had a dance band (typically with a muted horn section) behind the strings. Today, they play late 70's grupo, some mid-60's trio, and a lot of 60's pop songs.

The first Spanish oldies station I am aware of was 590 HCSP La Voz Amiga that did trios, soft rancheras and ballads in about 1966; it became Radio Fiesta with Ecuadorian music in 1969. All the music was from 5 to 15 years old.

I tried to find if anyone else played the 40's and 50's stuff that XECMQ plays, and my contacts in Mexico City say there is not another in any market but that some special programs exist, mostly in night (DX) hours.

Currently, there is a pop oldies FM in Ecuador using "Aòoranza" as a name; I personally find that one more evocative than Recuerdo/s or Inolvidable.

I researched the appeal of a pop oldies station in Argentina (either English, Spanish or a mix of songs in both languages) and the idea was DOA (David Gleason, CA, CorazÙn DX via DXLD)

There is an FM Station from Tampico that uses the slogan "EstÈreo Recuerdo". They play music from the 60's to the 90's, everything from mainstream pop to "Romantica". I believe when they use the term "Recuerdos" (memories), it loosely translates into our term for

"oldies". Usually these stations do not play norteña music or REGIONAL MEXICAN which is generally thought of by the Mexican upper class as peasant music (music for the lower classes). The exception is Ranchera (Vicente Fernandez, Pedro Infante which is TRADITIONAL MEXICAN MUSIC and is listened to by all classes. The "Recuerdos" stations usually exist in only the largest Mexican cities (Tampico, Monterrey, DF, Guadalajara.) In the United States the majority of the Mexican population immigrated from the lower classes (Farmworkers, etc). This is one reason that programming usually appeals to the "Lowest Common Denominator". (Steven Wiseblood, Boca Chica Beach, TX, ibid.)

What you are hearing from Tampico is common in smaller metros (markets 15 to 4, at least), while in the top 3, the oldies stations will be more focused on 60's and 70's. While in context Recuerdo/s identifies oldies, the word does not mean anything but "memory" or "I remember" So if you use the term "Recuerdo" elsewhere, it refers to any kind of memory.

When I did the research in the US for the HBC Recuerdo Stations, we found that the old norteña and "rompe y razga" ranchera does not fit. However, among the highest researching songs were those of Javier Solis, José Alfredo Jiménez and the like. Since most emigrants from Mexico come from rural areas, they are accustomed to hearing a mix of pop and ranchera "fina" on an oldies station, but not hard-core regional. And, as most immigrants in California are from Central Mexico, the ones over 35 never listened to norteña, which was not played in that area in the 60's and 70's.

Ranchera can be divided into two sectors... classy and not classy. And this is often done with the FMs like Morena in Monterrey which bills itself as 'ranchera fina' as opposed to the fare on some of the AMs which is less classy.

In Mexico City, however, there is no station appealing to upper and middle income persons that plays ranchera in any form... it is considered venom for upper income ratings success, a virtual requirement to bill well (XEBS, the 40+ year ranchera stations on 1410 is top 10 in ratings, about #35 in revenue). (David Gleason, Palm Springs, Corazón DX via DXLD)

** MONACO [non]. From a complete multi-site schedule we have excerpted English, not quite sure why, as one could well get more out of listening to TWR, in e.g., Qashqai... (gh)

TRANS WORLD RADIO - EUROPE TRANSMISSION SCHEDULE WINTER SEASON B-02
27 OCT 2002 -29 MAR 2003 Updated: 27 Sep 2002 Shortwave

TRANS WORLD RADIO - MONTE CARLO, MONACO

TIME/UTC	DAYS	LANGUAGE	MB	FREQ	PWR	AZI	ZONES
0745-0850	6	English	31	9870	100	I324	27
0745-0920	7	English	31	9870	100	324	27
0755-0920	12345	English	31	9870	100	324	27

TRANS WORLD RADIO _ CERRIK, ALBANIA

TIME/UTC	DAYS	LANGUAGE	MB	FREQ	PWR	AZI	ZONES
0745-0850	6	English	25	12070	100	310	27
0745-0920	7	English	25	12070	100	310	27
0755-0920	12345	English	25	12070	100	310	27
1825-1841	7	Qashqai	31	9960	100	90	30/40
1825-1841	7	Qashqai	25	12075	100	90	30/40

Day 1 = Mon .. 7 = Sun

TRANS WORLD RADIO - ROUMOULES, RMC_FRANCE

TIME/UTC	DAYS	LANGUAGE	M	FREQ	PWR	AZI	ZONES
2300-2345	1234567	English	204	1467	1000	325	27,28

Via - Bernhard Schraut (Freq. Manager) (via Alokesh Gupta, New Delhi, India, Cumbre DX et al. via DXLD)

** NETHERLANDS. NEW WEB SITE FOR RN MUSIC

Some of you will already be aware of the work of our music department, as we've sent out numerous Radio Netherlands CD's as prizes in recent years. Now, the Music Department has opened its own Web site. It features the broadest mix of Dutch music, from Classical to Jazz to Pop and Rock to World music.

This Web site will help you gather information about the Dutch music scene and Radio Netherlands' role in it. We have an extensive Catalogue of CD productions, which you can browse, and information about our Concert Series and our Dutch Music Weeks around the world. You will be able to listen to music, read Behind-the-Scenes interviews and Biographies of artists, and consult Concert Agendas for bands and orchestras as they travel to your part of the world. Currently you can read details of the "Going Dutch" week on 5-12 October. Radio Netherlands Music, together with NOS Radio 4, BBC Radio 3 and MuziekGroep Nederland, introduces the first Dutch Music Week in two countries, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. All this and more at <http://www.rnmusic.nl> (Media Network newsletter Sept 27 via DXLD)

**** PAPUA NEW GUINEA. TROUBLED PNG SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS LOSES LOCAL RADIO**
| Text of report by Papua New Guinea newspaper The National web site
on 1 October, by Kevin Pamba

The Southern Highlands province's only effective mass communication link with the outside world, Radio Southern Highlands, was turned off last week. The radio station went off after PNG Power cut its power supply on Tuesday [24 September] for non-payment of power bills dating back to about two years ago.

Radio station manager Andrew Meles told The National from Mendi on Friday that the closure effectively cuts the 500,000-plus Southern Highlanders off from one of their last remaining service organizations that was running effectively through the troubles in the province. "We were operating during the tribal fights and the elections, bringing news and information to people," Mr Meles said.

Mr Meles said though his staff and their facilities were victimized by troubles, they continued to operate. He said often they walk around Mendi town and or hitch a ride in other people's vehicles to other parts of the province to gather news because they only vehicle, a Nissan Vannette, was out of service. He said with the radio service now cut off, they may not cover the fresh elections and the important visits and address by important people like acting governor Sir Peter Barter as they have been doing.

Mr Meles said he, as head of the radio station, had repeatedly knocked on the doors of the provincial administration and politicians for help but was to no avail. He said power was among many operational needs the station needed.

Mr Meles said the station needs over 100,000 kina to pay off its debts to PNG Power, Telikom, business houses who provide logistics including basic items like stationery on a credit basis.

Meanwhile, he said the radio station, which is owned by the National Broadcasting Corporation, had lost four of its staff houses at Tente Newtown in Mendi to warring tribesmen. Mr Meles said the four NBC staff and their families were chased away and the houses were stripped down by the tribal warriors and parts taken away into the villages early this year. He said the staff members are currently living with wantoks [kinfolk]. Source: The National web site, Port Moresby, in English 1 Oct 02 (via BBCM via DXLD) WTFK?? That would be the one on 3275 (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

**** PARAGUAY. 7300, Radio AmÈrica, 0750-0835, October 1. Best reception on 7301.12 USB mode. Religious talk in Spanish by male. Christian**

music. At 0801 long commentary read by female present by "Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días" Church. ID at 0829: "proclamando la palabra del Señor, Ésta es ZP20, Radio América". Check time: "son las 5 y 29 minutos". Music. Ann. next program by José Holowaty [ex-KGEI]. Other ID as: le invitamos a seguir en sintonía de ZP20 Radio América" 24332 (Arnaldo Slaen, Argentine, Cumbre DX, hard-core-dx via DXLD)

Wonder if this is a strictly LDS outlet now? (gh, DXLD)

[Luego:] Recién chequeé mi dirección en yahoo y me encontré con la carta QSL de Radio América, por un reporte enviado algunas horas antes. Lo reproduzco a continuación (Arnaldo Slaen, ibid.)

Asunto: Re: Contacto

--QSL RADIODIFUSIÓN AMÉRICA, VILLETA, PARAGUAY.

TRANSMISIÓN EXPERIMENTAL EN 41 METROS.

Señor Arnaldo Slaen, Buenos Aires, República Argentina

Estimado Señor Arnaldo Slaen:

Tengo el placer y privilegio de confirmar su sintonía a nuestras transmisiones experimentales, desde Villeta, Paraguay.

Fecha de Sintonía: 1 de octubre de 2002

Hora de Sintonía: 0750 a 0835 UTC

Frecuencia: 7300 KHZ

La información presentada en su reporte corresponde con la programación emitida por ZP20, Radio América, repetida en las frecuencias de la Onda Corta.

Debo mencionar que estamos probando en las frecuencias de 7300 y 7385 kHz, en este momento. Esperamos agregar la frecuencia de 9980 kHz, en el futuro cercano. Con los mejores de saludos, desde el Paraguay!

Adán Mur, Asesor Técnico, Radiodifusión América, Asunción, Paraguay (via Slaen, Oct 1, Conexión Digital via DXLD)

** PERU. Re 2-151, correction to name of station: 6323.9 RD COMERCIAL LA VOZ DEL DESTINO. Nueva Cajamarca, Perú. 2209-2302* Sept. 28 y *1035-1110 Sept. 29

Nuevamente en el aire esta emisora peruana que apareció por primera vez en diciembre del año pasado, y reactivada desde Marzo cuando la escuché el Colegio Malm en Ecuador. Música tropical mencionando el Alto

Mayo. Al dar la hora ``...A travÈs de tu radio amiga Radio Comercial La Voz del Destino, 5 con 24, 5 de la tarde con 24 minutos...`` m'sica con los Reales de Cajamarca. Corte abrupto sin cierre luego de las 2300. Luego al d'ia siguiente aperturando luego de las 1030 con m'sica folcl'orica.

Informaci'Un Adicional. De Lunes a Viernes luego de las 0100 retransmite el Noticiero Nacional de la cadena de televisi'Un Gamavisi'Un, audio que es tomado desde un televisor.

En diciembre del a'no pasado reportÈ a esta peruana, pero no logrando identificar su nombre, el colega Malm a travÈs de SWB v'ia DXLD confirm'U en su momento que el nombre era Radiodifusora Comercial La Voz del Vecino, pero durante este fin de semana logrÈ una mejor escucha debido a su reactivaci'Un aunque en verdad por momentos la grabaci'Un suena como ``La Voz del Vecino``, el nombre correcto es Radiodifusora Comercial La Voz del Destino, operando en los 89.5 del FM y 6325 nominal para la onda corta. Con estudios ubicados en Jir'Un Huallaga No. 199 en Nueva Cajamarca, Pvcia de Rioja, Regi'Un de San Mart'In en Per'. Tel. + 51 94 556072 Mencionaron como director al se'or Hilmer Tinedo. Hoy o ma'ana envi'U una grabaci'Un de esta emisora para que sea colocada en los archivos de la lista.

Varias peruanas tarde en la noche y madrugada, todas ellas evangÈlicas con predicaci'Un y alabanza son Radio del Pacifico 4975, Radio Victoria 6020 y Radio JSV 6060.3, las dos 'ltimas con La Voz de la Liberaci'Un (Rafael Rodr'iguez, Bogot', Colombia, Conexi'Un Digital via DXLD)

unID, 6324, 1100, Oct 1, Andean folk music, with no announcements. Good signal strength, but heavy flutter fading from geomagnetic storm. Rdif Comercial, N Cajamarca, Peru is listed for this frequency on Mark Morhmann's LA DX webpage. <http://www.rovers.net/~hackmohr/sw.htm> (David Hodgson, TN, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** POLAND. In the September 17th Radio Polonia media programme it was reported that a TPSA representative at the Bangkok HFCC meeting was trying to sell airtime to foreign broadcasters over the 1503 medium wave transmitter (Jonathan Murphy, Ireland, Oct World DX Club Contact via Mike Barraclough, DXLD)

** SYRIA [non]. Syrian Human Rights Commission did send that "lovely card" they promised in 24 days for a report to its president, Saleem El-Hasan. The Palace of Westminster card simply states "with thanks and respect" and is signed by Saleem El-Hasan. A thank you e-mail - inquiring further about Sout Al Watan - resulted in the following reply: "Thanks again for your message. All wishes of pleasure and happiness to you too. I have asked several friends in Syria and in the USA, but nobody confirmed so far that he or she heard of such a

broadcast. Regards, SHRC." Believable? As JB noted in RDXP WE Sep 8, I may be the only one to have this non-station QSLed (Rich D'Angelo, PA, BC-DX Sep 23 via DXLD)

** TATARSTAN. INTERNET USE SOARS IN TATARSTAN. There are more than 61,000 regular users of the Internet in Tatarstan, tatnews.ru reported on 16 September, citing the republic's Communications Minister Rinat Zalyalov. By comparison, the number of regular users was only about 17,000 six months ago. However, users are still encountering serious problems with their Internet service providers. For example, the operator IntelSet for a long time blocked its own subscribers from using the modem pools of other providers, which is a violation of antimonopoly laws and for which the company was fined about 200,000 rubles (\$6,300). ("RFE/RL Newsline," 18 September via RFE/RL Media Matters Sept 27 via DXLD)

** TIBET. 9490, Xizang PBS, 1100 Oct 1, English ID, news, cultural and music program in English. Strong, but distorted audio - less than full copy. // 5240 and 7385, both much weaker. Back into Chinese at 1120 (George, MA, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

[Evidently HFCC listings changed site from one year to next:]

2001: 9490 2300-1300 43S XIA 100 255 CHN CRI RTC

2002: 9490 0200-1700 42S LHA 100 85 CHN CRI RTC

(BC-DX Sept 24 via DXLD)

7385 Tibet. Zumindest auf dieser Frequenz bleiben nur noch 5 Wochen fuer ungestoerten Empfang. Die VOA plant wieder im Winter ueber Iranawila Sri Lanka auf 7385 zu senden.

In B-02 Winter schedule: 1200-1700 und 1800-2400. Dazwischen eine Stunde 1700-1800 BBC Uzbekisch ueber Relay Moskau, Russland. Aber vielleicht gibt es im Winter eine andere 'freie' Tibet/X'ian Frequenz (Wolfgang Buschel, df5sx, Sep 18, BC-DX via DXLD)

** U S A. 5050, WWRB 0140-0158 Oct 1. Rock music with no announcements between selections, just short periods of dead air. Some selections were cut off in the middle or began after their usual start. Also short periods of extremely low audio that sounded like a non-related program. Finally at 0158, a very hurried announcement by a man: " This is station WWRB, World Wide Radio Broadcasting, Manchester, Tennessee, U.S.A., 5.050 megahertz shortwave. Just testing our Harris transmitter here on 5085 (?). This is WWRB." Then abruptly gone. Extremely loud signal (SINPO 55444). (Jim Evans, TN, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

WWRB also heard testing 5050 around 0100 UT Oct 2 (Ron Trotto, IL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. Hadn't checked WJIE for almost a week, so: Oct 1 after 0500, 7490 had very strong signal, seemed stronger than before, but no modulation. After 1200, nothing but DVR. Fair around 0030 Oct 2 with disturbed conditions, current WORLD OF RADIO 1149 (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST) WJIE 7490 now regular here from around 2200 and also mornings, Arabic programming noted from at least 0740 to 0830 (Mike Barraclough, England, Oct World DX Club Contact via DXLD)

** U S A. WTJC KRIJGT ZUSTERSTATION

Vanuit Newport in North Carolina (VS) heeft zich een nieuw reli-station in de ether gemeld. World Beacon of Hope begon eind september met laagvermogen testuitzendingen op 5920 kHz. Het station maakt deel uit van het Fundamental Broadcasting Network (FBN) en gebruikt de roepletters WBOH.

In de eerste fase wordt met 50 watt de rombische antenne uitgeprobeerd. Daarvoor wordt de programmering van het zusterstation WTJC gerelayeerd. Als de testuitzendingen bevredigend verlopen, wordt de 50 kilowatt sterke omgebouwde middengolfzender op vol vermogen ingeschakeld. De programmering zal dan voor de helft uit Spaanstalige programma's bestaan. WBOH is 24 uur per dag in de lucht, maar voor ontvangst in Nederland en België zijn we op de donkere uurtjes aangewezen. (Diverse bronnen, 1 oktober 2002 via Michiel Schaay's website <http://www.kortegolf.info/Nieuwsbrief-actueel.htm> via DXLD)

WBOH TESTING FROM NORTH CAROLINA ON 5920 KHZ

The Fundamental Broadcasting Network (FBN) has launched a new shortwave station. WBOH Newport NC has begun testing on 5920 kHz. Initially tests were conducted with only 15-20 watts of power. Ralph Brandi [NJ] was the first DXer to log the station on September 30, when power had been raised to 30-40 watts. FBN tells DXing.info that they expect to be on the air with 50 kW of power within a couple of weeks, but they are still waiting for the main transmitter to arrive from Canada. WBOH - which according to FBN stands for Worldwide Beacon of Hope - is located on a new transmitter site in Newport, some 4-5 miles away from the transmitter of WTJC, FBN's first shortwave station. During the testing period WBOH mostly retransmits WTJC programming (heard 24 hours a day on 9370 kHz), but some Spanish content is added as well. Pictures of the new station can be seen on the FBN website. The antenna of WBOH is directed south. By launching WBOH, FBN aims to improve reception in Central and South America with programming in English, Spanish and Portuguese (DXing.info, September 30 via DXLD)

** U S A. In the planned HF schedule for the coming broadcast period [Oct 27, 2002 - March 30, 2003] on the US FCC web site, noted a

listing for a 'new' station. I assume this is a "planned" schedule for it, as I haven't seen mention of this one elsewhere. (No listing for the station in current period HF schedule.)

Station: KIMF

Power Azm Zones

5835.0 0000 1800 KIMF 50 135 10,11

11885.0 1800 0000 KIMF 50 135 10,11

Elsewhere on the site, saw this: Main Station Record - KIMF

Permittee: International Fellowship of Churches, Inc/dba IMF world missions

Call Sign: KIMF File Number: IHFCP-20011210

Grant Date: / / Expire Date: / /

Transmitter Location: Intersection Spring Mesa Rd & State Rd 506, 1 sesquimile SW of PiöÛn, NM. Transmitter City: PiöÛn, NM

G. Coordinates: 32 36 33 N Latitude. 105 24 51 W Longitude

Tower Heights: 0 Meters OHAGL 0 Meters OHAMSL

Obstruction Markings: None Required

Conditions: None. Target Zones:

Address: International Fellowship of Churches, Radio Station KIMF 9746 6th Street, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730, USA.

TRANSMITTERS: Power Number of, Frequency, Model (KW) Transmitters

Emission Tolerance

Modified GE BT-50-G 50.0 2 1010K00A3E, 0.0015%

ANTENNAS: Gain Azimuth Beamwidth Elevation

Model (dB) (Degrees) (Degrees) (Degrees)

RHO 14.000 100.0 35.00 23.00

RHO 14.000 135.0 35.00 23.00

(Bill Matthews, OH, DXplorer Sep 26 via BC-DX via DXLD)

** U S A [and non]. THE BIRDS ARE BACK -- Our favorite flying T-Hunt is about to start. This, as the famed radio tagged burrowing owls take flight once again. With the details, here's Joe Moell, K00V. -- It's that time again -- migratory birds in the Northern Hemisphere are heading south for the winter. For the fifth year, ham radio operators and scanner fans are being asked to use their equipment to help wildlife biologists figure out the routes and final destinations of endangered Burrowing Owls. In previous years, hams helped determine that owls hatching during summer months in the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta travel over central states from North Dakota to Oklahoma, ending up in southeast Texas and northern states of Mexico. They sometimes fly over 2000 miles to their winter homes. There aren't any radio-tagged Canadian owls to listen for this fall, but the University of Arizona is asking for ham help with 53

transmitted owls from eastern Washington state. If you live in the western USA and can receive 150 MHz signals, you could help. Your scanner or extended- range hand-held ham radio transceiver, plus an outside antenna, are all you need to join in. If you have radio direction finding equipment for VHF, so much the better. For all the frequencies and monitoring information, go to the usual place on the Web, <http://www.homingin.com> (HomingIn is one word.) If you aren't on the Web, send postal mail to my callbook address. Again, the Web site is [homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com) Thanks in advance for your help. From southern California, this is Joe Moell K-zero-Oscar-Victor for Amateur Radio Newsline -- Once again, more information is in cyberspace at <http://www.homingin.com> (ARNewsline Sept 27 via DXLD)

** U S A. Here we are in October. My favorite month for pirate dx'ing thanks to Halloween. I love those nights when two or three stations are cranking on different frequencies! Bill D. Berger was very kind to send the following along from the Voice of the New World Order website explaining the origins and objectives of his station.

"Voice of the New World Order was born in response to various wacko conspiracy nuts with programs on various shortwave outlets such as WWCR and WWFV (or whatever they're calling themselves now). But it was really Colonel Steve Anderson of the Kentucky Rifleman's Militia and his illegal station United Patriot Radio that sparked the idea of VoNWO. Col. Steve had his station where he broadcast his crazy ideas every night, many having to do with bizarre conspiracy theories dealing with the New World Order and how the evil UN was planning on taking away everyone's guns and enslaving them in one-world government.

NWO conspiracy theorists have believed for years that the Illuminati, Jewish Bankers, UN troops based in secret training bases around the US, Freemasons, the Trilateral Commission, the Bildeburg group, and just about any organization you can think of is somehow involved in a massive conspiracy to join all the nations of the world together under one government, headed by the antichrist. Supposedly if the antichrist comes to power at the head of this evil one-world government, then Jesus will not be able to return.

So we got to thinking... if there really is a massive conspiracy involving a cast of literally thousands of people, then there should be a broadcast service to distribute information to all these people so they can know how their evil plans are going. Naturally it should be called the Voice of the New World Order, and should be based at UN headquarters. We had planned to begin broadcasting our programs every so often on 6900 kHz after Col. Steve signed off. Originally I think the plan was just simply to try to piss off Col. Steve by extolling the virtues of the NWO, but the idea for a regular shortwave pirate

was hatched. Unfortunately, we never put a show together before Col Steve finally went over the edge and shot up that police car, causing him to be on the lam ever since. But the idea had taken root and finally a show was put on the air.

Unfortunately, nobody heard our first broadcast. At least, nobody reported it to the FRN Grapevines, the ACE, or to us. Undaunted, we continued putting shows on the air and people started hearing us. Today we broadcast every so often around 6950 and 6955. Any time we need new material for a show, we just check out some wacko's website and see what the conspiracy of the day is. There's enough out there to keep someone entertained for years. Basically our shows poke fun at conspiracy nuts by pretending the conspiracy theories are real, and pointing out how silly they really are.

We still haven't had the heart to do any shows with material about September 11. Many conspiracy nuts believe that the US government was behind the attacks, or at least took part in them. While this is laughable, we can't seem to bring ourselves to make fun of these nuts. I know that many people would take jokes about the terrorist attacks the wrong way, and I don't feel like dealing with that kind of mess. But the bottom line is that I don't think I could find much humor in it.

We've been involved in pirate radio for years, and have operated several different stations. VoNWO is yet another production from our strange minds, and hopefully won't be the last one we produce."

Bill D. Berger says that Voice of the New World Order uses standard ham equipment for transmitting. Regarding the shortwave pirate scene, he says "I think that the shortwave pirate scene is still going strong. Activity dropped off a bit after the Halloween 1998 busts, but today it's not hard to find a pirate active just about any night. Not only are pirates staying on 6955, but we have expanded to other frequencies such as 6900, 6925, and 6950. The FCC still seems powerless or unwilling to do any enforcement. Of course they are still understaffed which is good for us."

Bill states that response to VoNWO has been mostly positive and that listeners enjoy the station. "Actually I was hoping to hear from some conspiracy nuts but so far haven't" he explains. "I hope to add a "listener mail" section to our website where we can list comments about our station, so it's up to our listeners to send in their comments." Voice of the New World Order is definitely a unique station to listen for! (via Frederick Moe, Random Transmissions, Oct The ACE via DXLD)

★★ U S A. WFMT'S SIGNAL DECISION BRINGS SOME STATIC

By Raoul V. Mowatt, Tribune staff reporter, October 1, 2002

Only one thing surprised Clare Close more than the persistent interference he heard while tuning into WFMT-FM 98.7 -- the explanation for why it was there.

The station has been using part of its signal band to broadcast other programming than the classical music that is its mainstay. The practice, not unusual in the industry, is generally undetectable to listeners. But in rare cases like Close's, the secondary signal can bleed over.

"I think it caused a deterioration in the quality of the music," the Northbrook resident said. "I think it's a disservice to those people who sent their [subscription] money, as I have."

The scope of the potential problem is unclear. Station executives are quick to point out that they've only had one complaint -- Close's -- since the procedure started in May. But its introduction apparently has prompted some internal disagreement, fueled in part by WFMT's longtime reputation for technological quality and its status as a publicly supported station.

The move was made over the objection of WFMT's chief engineer, Gordon Carter, who feared that a few listeners could experience lowered sound quality.

Carter likened his situation to when Scotty, the chief engineer from the original "Star Trek" series, gets asked to perform a risky task: Even after telling Capt. Kirk how inadvisable it is, eventually he just has to suck it up and do it anyway.

"Money talks," he said. "It becomes more of a business decision than a technical decision at some point."

But Steve Robinson, vice president for WFMT and WFMT Radio Networks, said, "We would never, no matter how much income was involved -- it could be \$5 million -- lease out the [signal space] unless we could be assured that it wouldn't interfere with the main signal."

Each FM station has enough broadcasting space for its main signal and two other "subcarrier" signals. It's relatively common to lease the secondary space to companies who transmit information to specialty receivers. The additional signals are at frequencies not captured by a typical FM set, experts say.

Locally, WBEZ-FM 91.5 donates one of its subcarriers to a service that reads newspapers and magazines for blind listeners, said Torey Malatia, its general manager. WBBM-FM 96.3 hosts signals from a paging

company and a firm that plays Korean programming, said Don Marion, the station's vice president and general manager. Both said they knew of no complaints about the secondary signals interfering with their main ones, and were skeptical that such a situation would prove a problem with WFMT.

The Federal Communications Commission does not regulate subcarrier agreements because a license gives a station a broad right to do what it likes with its frequency, said Peter Doyle, chief of the agency's audio division. He said leasing out portions of a signal can affect the fidelity of the main signal, but it's up to individual broadcasters whether they want to take that risk.

WFMT has leased one of its slots to RBC Radio, a New York-based broadcaster of Indian programming, and has been testing its signal since May. "Most listeners don't even know it was there," Carter said. Full-fledged broadcasting of the signal is slated to begin Oct. 1, said Holly Gilson, a WFMT spokeswoman.

RBC Radio also piggybacks a signal on a New York station and is heard in various other locations, including Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, D.C., said Abhi Chauhan, a broadcaster there. Specialized radios

He said that about 2,000 to 3,000 Chicago area people have purchased specialized radios to pick up the RBC signal. He added that, with its large Indian population, Chicago was a natural market for expansion, and WFMT was a natural business partner.

"They have very good coverage and a great signal," Chauhan said. He also said that interference on WFMT would be virtually impossible. Neither he nor WFMT officials would specify how much the lease was for, but one source suggested it was for around \$100,000 a year. Marion said subcarriers typically lease for between \$12,000 and \$15,000 a month.

WFMT has long prided itself on its technical quality. The station was a pioneer in broadcasting in stereo and, in 1982, was the first radio station in the world to broadcast from a compact disc.

The station makes its annual budget of about \$5 million in part on donations in addition to grants and sponsorships. In the latest Arbitron ratings quarterly survey, WFMT drew about 386,600 listeners weekly.

Robinson said, "In a minuscule percentage of cases, you're going to find people who are going to have reception problems." But, he added, "It's income, and it's income that comes with no downside, in our

opinion."

Close, a listener for the five decades the station has been on the air, disagreed.

Background hiss

He first noticed background hiss similar to white noise or the fuzz that comes up between stations when he was in the hospital recovering from back surgery. At the time, he attributed it to the stereo he was using.

But when he noticed it on his more sophisticated home set, Close spoke with Carter and learned of the subcarrier agreement. The 76-year-old retired doctor said his ears might not be as acute as they once were, but that they can readily pick it out. "At normal listening levels, even during the program, you can hear it a little bit," Close said. "But when it's most distinct is when the program material is about to go off."

WFMT had campaigned in recent years for an improved transmitter to enhance its sound further. But Robinson said it was "apples and oranges" to link that campaign to any potential problems the subcarrier might cause.

Asked if the station was considering leasing its other available space, Carter said he hoped not. "Quite frankly, were it my call, we wouldn't put the one we did," Carter said. "But I can understand from a business sense we're putting a substantial amount of money on the table."

In testing a couple of years ago, Carter added, experiments ran the spectrum from no interference on inexpensive receivers to some on higher-end ones. "You could take five different receivers of the same model and get five different results," Carter said.

Another factor is that, unlike most other stations, the broadcasts on WFMT go through the entire range of volume, meaning there's an increased chance a discerning ear could detect something amiss during a pianissimo portion.

"Let's face it. It's hard to hear a subtle noise in the middle of rock music," Carter said. "It's really easy in classical music, which gets really quiet and suddenly everything is there."

But all and all, Carter and Robinson defend the decision.

"One of the conditions was if it couldn't be made to work properly,

the deal was off," Carter said. "Part of the procedure was a complete independent analysis of our signal with the [subcarrier] present under all possible conditions."

He added, "If you have questionable reception to begin with, it's going to be more. If you have good reception, you probably won't even notice it. There are so many things that come into play between the transmitter and the person's ears that can affect this."

For some, Carter said, getting a stronger antenna would solve any problem. For others, taking the receiver into an electronics shop and explaining the problem could do the trick. Copyright © 2002, Chicago Tribune (via Mike Cooper, DXLD)

** URUGUAY. Re 6010 kHz [see COLOMBIA]. Ayer veníamos analizando la congestión de emisoras latinoamericanas que se encuentra en esta frecuencia. Vale acotar que Emisora Ciudad de Montevideo solamente est· en el aire los fines de semana, desde la media mañana en esta región hasta la media tarde. De esta forma, y considerando que Radio Inconfidencia, según mis informaciones abre transmisiones a las 0800 UT, lo más recomendable para los que estamos en la parte sur del Cono Sur es tentar con La Voz de tu Conciencia a las 0500-0800 UT. 73's (Arnaldo Slaen, Argentina, Sept 25, Conexión Digital via DXLD)

** VATICAN. English is now 1530-1555; all frequencies audible here, 12065, 13765, 15235 (Mike Barracrough, England, Oct World DX Club Contact via DXLD)

UNIDENTIFIED. 3845, VOA (QTH??), 1051-1101 28 Sept, English talk by M with interview, ment of Tony Blair, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, 1975, and Vietnam. Gave Web address at 1057, and end of program. Piano music, 1100 VOA "signing on" ID. Spur or image?? Loti Yates e-mail said he didn't think this was R. Independent Mekamui as Sam is on 3850 (Dave Valko, PA, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

UNIDENTIFIED. 5040.58. Could this be Myanmar, ex 4725? Noted since 1301 Oct 1 with what sounded like news in language. Same buzzy transmitter sound that one heard on 4725, only there is nothing there this morning. Blew through 1330 with no time pips but rather theme that I believe I have heard before. Then long talk by YL with what seemed to be many mentions of Myanmar. I don't think this is AIR Jeypore which is spot on 5040 but irregular. Station still on as I type this at 1354. Any help appreciated (Hans Johnson, WY, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

PENNANT GALLERY

Check out my collection of pennants from radio stations around the world. The latest addition to my collection is a very rare pennant from the famous Radio New York Worldwide when it call letters were still WRUL. I also recently obtained a very unique "upside down" pennant from Radiodiffusion TV Francaise which looks to be rather old.
<http://www.bcdx.org/pennants>

(Brandon Jordan - Memphis TN - Oct 1,
<http://www.bcdx.org/cgi-bin/ultimatebb.cgi> via DXLD)
Brandon's new bulletin board could use a lot more traffic (gh, DXLD)

DRM
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With the impending Iraq problem does anyone know how robust DRM is against deliberate jamming? (Andy Cadier, BDXC-UK via DXLD)

This question was dealt with by DRM spokesman Peter Senger on Radio Australia a few months back. In reply to a listener's question on the effects of strong interference on a DRM digital signal he said that DRM had to have a bit error rate of below 10^{-4} ; if this bit error rate was not achieved the receiver would mute. Any interference increases the bit error rate.

In response to a specific question as to whether it would be easier for foreign governments to jam DRM transmissions, since in analogue the human ear is adept at picking out words from broadcasts subject to interference, he said that whoever would like to jam can jam, the bit error rate would go up and the receiver would mute, so contrary to analogue the effect of jamming would be no signal.

He said that standards had been established, and would be published by the ITU, so that no adjacent channel interference would be caused, which is a concern of mine. However of course on AM there is a different problem, at night the signals are subject to skywave and digital signals appear as a buzz on analogue sets. That is why in the US IBOC AM is currently restricted to a daytime only service.

Having spent so much money promoting DAB is the British radio industry going to embrace DRM? (Mike Barraclough, BDXC-UK via DXLD)

I wonder if it possible that the effects of DRM could be more profound long-term?

Let's imagine DRM is readily available and cheap enough to start incorporating in many of the sort of products which contain not a shortwave tuner but an AM radio tuner of any sort e.g. portable radio, personal radio, boom box, mini hi-fi. I know Blaupunkt intend to

incorporate DRM in a car radio soon.

Would some broadcasters not be beating a door to the shortwave transmission companies to pay to deliver a higher quality signal across a nation, across borders, maybe to a neighbouring country. Would a station like Jazz FM, not a traditional international SW broadcaster, but a winner internationally on the net not want to be heard on portable or car radios in as much of the world as was economic?

If new programme content or reception convenience were to appear via DRM, would that not drive receiver sales? If a UK station or foreign wanted to reach all the UK from coast to coast with good reception using a single SW frequency, would that be viable? Chicken and egg, receiver sales vs. Brave broadcasters, but if DRM DOES start to appear in many radio sets, then it won't matter if a station is FM or DRM. If the programmes are good and stay on the air without the poor listener having to understand how to re-tune and predict propagation, then we may have a killer app.

The regulatory implications are profound. Any local station could hire DRM transmission time from Merlin or go abroad and operate from there.

Perhaps DRM will break the traditional model of domestic and external broadcaster on the SW bands, just local radio stations rub shoulders with international giants on the Internet.

Please note: These musings are not the policy, thoughts, words or deeds of my employer (Chris McWhinnie, UK, Sept 25, BDXC-UK via DXLD)

RAMADAN 2002

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Der muslimische Fastenmonat Ramadan beginnt wahrscheinlich am 6.11.2002. Das Ramadanfest zum Abschluss findet dann am 5.-7.12. statt. Das genaue Datum variiert plus minus 1 bis 2 Tage, da sich der islamische Kalender nicht an Daten, sondern am Mondkalender orientiert und der Beginn des Fastenmonats von den geistlichen Autoritäten ausgerufen wird.

Der Fastenmonat ist eine der ``fünf Säulen`` des Islam, neben dem Bekenntnis zu Allah als dem einen Gott und zu Mohammed als seinem Gesandten, der Abgabe zugunsten der Armen, dem regelmäßigen Gebet und der Wallfahrt nach Mekka. In der Zeit des Ramadan sollen die Gläubigen vom Morgen bis Abend fasten, ausgenommen Kinder, Schwangere, Schwerarbeitende und Reisende. In dieser Zeit verlagert sich das gesellschaftliche und familiäre Leben auf den Abend und verlängern viele Stationen der muslimischen Welt ihre Programme, so dass sich neue Möglichkeiten für den Rundfunkfernempfang ergeben (Dr. Hansjörg

Biener, NTT Aktuell via DXLD)

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